Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application and reflects the claim amendments made in the Examiner's Amendment dated November 14, 2006.

Please add new claims 136 to 138 as indicated.

Claims 1 to 97 (cancelled).

Claim 98 (previously presented): A method for inactivating at least one biological contaminant or pathogen in a preparation containing albumin comprising irradiating said preparation with gamma radiation at a rate of greater than 3.0 kGy/hr for a time effective to inactivate at least one biological contaminant or pathogen in said preparation.

Claim 99 (previously presented): A method for inactivating at least one biological contaminant or pathogen in a plasma protein fraction preparation comprising irradiating said preparation with gamma radiation at a rate greater than 3.0 kGy/hr for a time effective to inactivate at least one biological contaminant or pathogen in said preparation.

Claim 100 (previously presented): A method for inactivating at least one biological contaminant or pathogen in a plasma protein fraction preparation comprising reducing the temperature of said preparation to a level effective to protect said preparation from gamma irradiation; and irradiating said preparation with gamma irradiation at a rate of greater than 3.0 kGy/hr for a time effective to inactivate at least one biological contaminant or pathogen in said preparation.

Claim 101 (previously presented): The method according to claim 98, 99 or 100 further comprising reducing residual solvent present in said preparation to a level effective to protect said preparation from said gamma radiation.

Claim 102 (previously presented): The method according to claim 98, 99 or 100 further comprising adding to said preparation at least one stabilizer in an amount effective to protect said preparation from said gamma radiation.

Claim 103 (previously presented): The method according to claim 98 or 99, further comprising reducing the temperature of said preparation to a level effective to protect said preparation from said gamma radiation.

Claim 104 (previously presented): The method according to claim 98 or 99, further comprising at least two of

(i) reducing residual solvent present in said preparation to a level effective to protect said preparation from said gamma radiation;

(ii) adding to said preparation at least one stabilizer in an amount effective to protect said preparation from said gamma radiation; and

(iii) reducing the temperature of said preparation to a level effective to protect said preparation from said gamma radiation.

Claim 105 (previously presented): The method according to claim 99 or 100 wherein said plasma protein fraction comprises albumin.

Claim 106 (previously presented): The method according to claim 99 or 100 wherein said plasma protein fraction further comprises at least one protein selected from the group consisting of a coagulation protein, a lipoprotein and a complement protein.

Claim 107 (previously presented): The method according to claim 104, wherein said coagulation protein is at least one selected from the group consisting of Factor VII, Factor VIII Factor IX and von Willebrands factor.

Claim 108 (previously presented): The method according to claim 99 or 100 wherein said plasma protein fraction further comprises at least one biological material selected from the group consisting of hemoglobin, alpha-globulin, beta-globulin and gamma-globulin.

Claim 109 (previously presented): The method according to claim 98 or 99 wherein said rate is greater than about 6.0 kGy/hr.

Claim 110 (previously presented): The method according to claim 98 or 99 wherein said rate is greater than about 18 kGy/hr.

Claim 111 (previously presented): The method according to claim 98 or 99 wherein said rate is greater than about 30.0 kG/hr.

Claim 112 (previously presented): The method according to claim 101 wherein said residual solvent is water.

Claim 113 (previously presented): The method according to claim 101 wherein said residual solvent is an organic solvent.

Claim 114 (previously presented): The method according to claim 101 wherein said residual solvent is reduced by a method selected from the group consisting of lyophilization, concentration, addition of solute, chemical extraction, spray-drying and vitrification.

Claim 115 (previously presented): The method according to claim 101 wherein the content of said residual solvent present in said preparation after said reduction is less than about 10%.

Claim 116 (previously presented): The method according to claim 101 wherein the content of said residual solvent present in said preparation after said reduction is less than about 5%.

Claim 117 (previously presented): The method according to claim 102 wherein said at least one stabilizer is an antioxidant.

Claim 118 (previously presented): The method according to claim 102 wherein said at least one stabilizer is a free radical scavenger.

Claim 119 (previously presented): The method according to claim 102 wherein said at least one stabilizer is selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid or a salt or an ester thereof; DMSO, mannitol, trehalose, glutathione; 6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchrom-2-carboxylic acid; uric acid or a salt or ester thereof; methionine; histidine; N-acetyl cysteine; lipoic acid; sodium formaldehyde sulfoxylate and gallic acid or a salt or an ester thereof.

Claim 120 (previously presented): The method according to claim 100 wherein said temperature is reduced below ambient temperature.

Claim 121 (previously presented): The method according to claim 100 wherein said temperature is reduced below the freezing point of said preparation.

Claim 122 (previously presented): The method according to claim 100 wherein said temperature is reduced below the eutectic point of said preparation.

Claim 123 (previously presented): The method according to claim 100 wherein said temperature is reduced below 0°C.

Claim 124 (previously presented): The method according to claim 100 wherein said temperature is reduced below minus 40°C.

Claim 125 (previously presented): The method according to claim 100 wherein said temperature is reduced below minus 60°C.

Claim 126 (previously presented): The method according to claim 98, 99 or 100 wherein said gamma irradiation is administered for a time effective to sterilize said preparation.

Claim 127 (previously presented): The method according to claim 98 wherein the preparation containing albumin is selected from the group consisting of Albuminar®, Buminate®, Albutein® and Albumarc®.

Claim 128 (previously presented): The method according to claim 99 or 100 wherein the plasma protein fraction preparation is selected from the group consisting of Plasma-Plex®, Protenate® and Plasmatein®.

Claim 129 (previously presented): The method according to claim 99 or 100 wherein the plasma protein fraction preparation is Plasmanate®.

Claim 130 (previously presented): A biological composition produced by any of the methods of claim 98, 99 or 100.

Claim 131 (previously presented): The composition of claim 130 wherein the composition is sterile albumin.

Claim 132 (previously presented): The composition of claim 130 wherein the composition is sterile plasma protein fraction.

Claims 133 to 135 (cancelled).

Claim 136 (new): The method of claim 102 wherein said at least one stabilizer is DMSO.

Claim 137 (new): The method of claim 102 wherein said at least one stabilizer is mannitol.

Claim 138 (new): The method of claim 102 wherein said at least one stabilizer is trehalose.